REMARKS

With respect to the rejection under Section 102 based on Chien, reconsideration is respectfully requested.

The issue is apparently whether or not Chien teaches a tunable dispersion compensator or, as argued previously, a non-tunable or fixed compensator that either applies the compensation or does not. Such a system would not be amenable to accommodating different amounts of dispersion which, of course, is very likely to occur in different situations.

The Examiner notes that Chien does teach lowering the amount of compensation.

Thus, the question is whether by "lowered" Chien means to tunable lower or whether he has just reduced the amount of dispersion by a fixed amount of compensation regardless of the actual amount of dispersion.
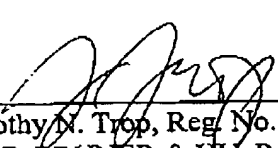
It is respectfully submitted that the Chien patent teaches a fixed dispersion compensation for the reasons already described because the squeezer is only on or off and, further, because Chien points out that the applied stress is of a predetermined amplitude and is "fixed." See paragraph 95. Moreover, he notes that the stress is actually applied by the squeezer when on. See paragraph 109.

As a result, there is no variable compensation. In Chien, there is just a fixed compensation, regardless of the amount of dispersion. While this can completely accurately be called lowering the dispersion, it is not tunable because it just applies the same fixed amount of dispersion compensation regardless of the amount of dispersion.

Therefore, reconsideration is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

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